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BOOK REVIEWS

MORNINGS WITH MASTERS OF ART. By H. H. POWERS, Ph.D., President Bureau of University Travel. The Mac-Millan Company, New York. Price \$2.00.

Professor Powers has long been a teacher and lecturer on art. He has devoted many years to the study of Italian pictures and to their interpretation for younger students. His books are so well known that "Mornings with Masters of Art" needs no heralding. It comes to a waiting audience, eager for his summing up of the great period of Christian art of which it treats. His host of admirers will not be disappointed. His enthusiasm is unflagging and at times, as in his description of the Sistine frescoes, rises to heights of eloquence that must communicate itself to the coldest reader.

The first chapter, "The Afterglow of Greece," is devoted to a careful analysis of three Greek pictures whose principles of composition, of light and shade, constantly recur in Italian painting. He begins his study of Christian art with the mosaics of the Fourth Century and ends with Michelangelo.

Many of the chapters are so vivid that we feel we are visiting the old churches and galleries in company with this very interesting and instructive talker; under the spell of his appreciation we see with new eyes the works of these masters.

One hundred and twenty-five illustrations greatly enhance the value of this book, as does the long list of University penny prints available for more detailed study of the text.

HARRIET HOSMER: LETTERS AND MEMORIES, EDITED BY CORNELIA CARR. Moffatt, Yard and Company, New York, Publishers.

A truly delightful book, embracing one of the most fascinating periods of Roman life for American and English readers. These letters make vividly real for us many happy hours spent with the Brownings, Charlotte Cushman, Hawthorne, Mrs. Jameson, The Storys and all that brilliant coterie who wintered in

Rome during Miss Hosmer's years of study in the Eternal City.

Her pictures of studio life, of her many distinguished visitors and fellow-artists make pleasant reading.

The letters from Mr. and Mrs. Brown-ing add largely to the value of the book. But the deep significance of this work lies in its revelation of the happiness that comes from work. Born in 1830 and dying in 1908 the long life of this sculptor was one of unrelenting toil. True, a great success crowned her efforts, but we must remember that in the early fifties much courage was required of the girl who resolutely chose art and maidenhood as her portion, and the most precious record left us in these letters is their unconscious tribute to the joy found in work, a joy which did not end with youth or middle age, but which remained to uplift her to the end.

A TEXT BOOK OF DESIGN. BY CHARLES FABENS KELLY, Instructor in Design, University of Illinois, and WILLIAM LUTHER MOWLL, formerly Assistant Professor of Architecture at Harvard University. Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston, Publishers. Price \$2.00.

A profound yet clear and simple analysis of design, from the crude beginnings of primitive peoples in their repetitions of spots and lines, to the magnificent use of space and line as is here illustrated by Moorish, Japanese, Gothic and other lovely designs.

Although this work is primarily intended as a college text-book, the laws governing good design are so clearly stated that any intelligent person can profit by its teachings. Its insistence that "law is as necessary to beauty of design in graphic art as it is to design in literature or music" is of special value in this hour of doubt and confusion, when men like Matisse and their followers are bewildering the minds of students by their utter disregard of this precept.

The delightful union of theory and practice, the 147 illustrations that prove the truth of every statement, place this book among the most helpful that have been published on Art.